



Welcome to Richmond's First Baptist Church

2709 Monument Avenue Richmond, VA 23220 | 804-355-8637 | fbcrichmond.org

March 26, 2023 | 11 a.m.

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Preparation For Worship

The first thing that happened was a sound of rattling and clicking like the tide going out over a million pebble beaches as the bones started snapping back together again. The next thing that happened was a million reassembled skeletons pulling on skin like long winter underwear. The last thing that happened was the color coming back to a million pairs of cheeks and the spark to a million pairs of eyes and the breath of life to a million pairs of lungs.

—Frederick Buechner, *commenting on Ezekiel 37*

The Chiming of the Hour

Handbell Prelude

“Yesu Ananipenda”

Cathy Moglebust

First Ringers and Youth Worship Arts Team

Welcome and Invocation

Lynn Turner

Call to Worship, *(from Psalm 130, NRSV)*

Lynn Turner

Leader: Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

People: Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

Leader: If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?

People: But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.

Leader: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;

Unison: More than those who watch for the morning.

Hymn No. 285, *“God of Grace and God of Glory”*

CWM RHONDDA

We invite children to the steps for the Children's Sermon.

Children's Sermon

Amanda Lott

The Epistle Lesson, *Romans 8:6-11, (Pew Bible NT page 191)*

Virginia Dean

Pastoral Prayer

Philip Mitchell

“A Future with Hope”
Youth Worship Arts Team

Surely I know, I know the plans I have for you,
Plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.
When you call on me, I will answer, I will hear your ev'ry prayer.
When you seek me with all your heart, you will find me, I will be there.

Hymn No. 569, “In Christ Alone”

IN CHRIST ALONE

Bringing Heaven to Earth

Ruth Szucs

Offertory

“Come Dwell in Solomon’s Walls”
Adult Choir

Randall K. Stroope

Doxology

OLD 100TH

Children in grades 1-3 are invited to children’s worship in suite 220. A leader will meet children at the door near the piano and return them to worship during the final hymn.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Gratitude

Phoebe James

The Old Testament Lesson, Ezekiel 37:1-14, (Pew Bible OT page 987)

Josiah Collier

Anthem

“Come Alive”
Youth Worship Arts Team; Kevin Beale, Chris Beale, *percussion*

arr. Joshua Spacht

Through the eyes of man it seems there’s so much we have lost,
As we look down the road where all the prodigals have walked,
One by one the enemy has whispered lies and led them off as slaves.

But we know that You are God; Yours is the victory.
We know there is more to come that we may not yet see,
So with the faith You’ve given us we step into the valley unafraid.

We call out to dry bones, “Come alive, come alive.”
We call out to dead hearts, “Come alive, come alive.”
Up out of the ashes let us see an army rise.
We call out to dry bones, “Come alive!”

God of endless mercy, God of unrelenting love;
Rescue ev’ry daughter, bring us back the wayward sons.
And by Your Spirit, breathe upon them.
Show the world that You alone can save!
Breathe, O breath of God. Now breathe, O breath of God.
Breathe, O breath of God, now breathe.

Sermon	<i>Decisions, Decisions: Can These Bones Live?</i>	Jim Somerville
Hymn No. 299, “Stand Up and Bless the Lord”		OLD 134TH
The Life of the Community		Jim Somerville
Charge and Benediction		Jim Somerville
Organ Postlude, “Our Father in Heaven”		Georg Böhm



The worship services at Richmond’s First Baptist Church are planned around the weekly readings from The Revised Common Lectionary. This biblically based approach to worship can be strengthened and enhanced by the awareness and preparation of our church family as we ready ourselves to meet God and each other in worship each week.

Lectionary Readings for Sunday, April 2, 2023: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Matthew 21:1-11

The flowers today are given to the glory of God in memory of
 Ted Allen by Anne Cary Allen;
 Mr. and Mrs. George T. Rickman by Chuck Dean and Trudy Rickman.

The 11 a.m. worship service is streamed on Sundays at fbcrichmond.online.church
 and on YouTube at fbcrichmond.org/youtube.

Wireless personal receivers are available for those who need assistance hearing in the Sanctuary.
 If your hearing aid is equipped with a T-switch, please activate it to utilize our hearing loop.

Ministry Leadership Staff

Dr. James G. Somerville, Senior Pastor

The Ministry of Christian Community

Rev. G. Lynn Turner, Senior Associate Pastor
 Rev. Robert E. Thompson, Minister of Pastoral Care
 Becky Payne, Pastoral Care Associate

The Ministry of Christian Formation

Dr. Allison Collier, Associate Pastor
 Amanda Lott, Minister to Children & Families
 Michael Lacy, Student Ministry Assistant
 Alex Hamp, Preschool Administrator

The Ministry of Christian Worship

Dr. Philip L. Mitchell, Associate Pastor
 Ruth Szucs, Music Ministry Associate
 Eunice Kim, Pianist
 Cheryl Van Ornam, Organist

The Ministry of Christian Invitation

Rev. Matthew Hensley, Associate Pastor
 Lee Byerly, Recreation Director

The Ministry of Christian Compassion

Rev. Steve R. Blanchard, Associate Pastor
 Emma Tilley, Compassion Ministry Associate

The Ministry of Communication

Allen Cumbia, Director of Communication Technology
 Leigh Farmer, Communication Coordinator

The Ministry of Support

Donna Earley, Director of Stewardship & Development
 Kim Boys, Interim Business Manager

Pastor Emeritus

Dr. Peter James Flamming

Deaf Mission at Richmond

Rev. Dirk Hill, Pastor

• **Easter Lilies** are now on sale. Consider purchasing one in honor of someone special this Lenten season. All lilies are \$17, and you have until March 31 to make your purchase. Please contact Lisa with any questions at Rahmlow@fbcrichmond.org or 804-358-5458 x129. You can use the QR code to purchase your lilies on our FBCnow! app.



• **Our Compassion Ministry** is collecting men's white crew socks and peanut butter for the month of March. If you can contribute please drop your donations in the bin outside of our Mulberry Street entrance.

• **Journey to the Cross** | March Wednesdays | 6:15 p.m. | Sanctuary | This year's Journey to the Cross series will make use of the Gospel lessons for the Season of Lent with an emphasis on Jesus' (and our) humanity. Streaming live on our website for those who are not able to join us in person.

• **Palm Sunday** | April 2 | 11 a.m. | Sanctuary | We celebrate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Streaming and broadcast LIVE at 11 a.m. on TV8 in central Virginia.

• **Praying the Stations of the Cross** | April 2-8 | During Daylight Hours | Courtyard | Experience the last days of Jesus' life as you immerse yourself in the scripture of Lent through art exhibits and readings. The courtyard will be open daily during daylight hours for individuals to go on a self-guided journey through the last moments of Jesus' earthly life. Each station features a unique piece of artwork, scripture, and a chance to reflect, pray, and meditate.

• **2023 Spring Break Kids' Art Camp: Conversations and Creations** | April 3-5 | 10-12:30 p.m. | Grades 2-5 | \$20/Camper; Family Max. is \$50. Amanda Lott and Ruth Szucs are leading this camp. We will help each child develop their own piece of art to be hung in the church hallway during the Easter season. Snacks and materials provided. Please register on the FBCnow! app.

• Enjoy a bus trip to Lancaster, PA to see **Moses**, a performance presented by **Sight and Sound Theatre**, on October 5-6. Contact Sandra Harris (804-276-4552) for more information on pricing and the trip agenda. You can also get a copy of the itinerary at the kiosks in the hallway. Deposits are due by April 2.

• **When You Give, You Make an Impact!** When you partner with Richmond's First Baptist Church financially, you help love and serve our neighbors in Richmond and around the world. Use the QR code to give now or give online at fbcrichmond.org/give.



• **Easter Egg Hunt** | April 2 | 2-4 p.m. | Arthur Ashe Boulevard Courtyard | Grab your friends and neighbors and join us for this fun-filled event. The hunt will be done in waves according to age. We will also offer door prizes and goodies to eat. FREE.

• **Maundy Thursday Dinner & Worship** | April 6 | Join us for dinner at 5 p.m. and worship at 6:30 p.m. for one of the most powerful and interactive services during the year as we observe the final moments leading up to the crucifixion of Jesus. Observed in a Tenebrae style—this service of darkness recounts the passion narrative as we hold onto hope for the light of Easter that lies ahead. Streaming LIVE on our website. No activities or dinner Wednesday, April 5.

• **Easter Sunday** | April 9 | 11 a.m. | Sanctuary | We celebrate Jesus' resurrection from the grave! Streaming and broadcast LIVE at 11 a.m. on TV8 in central Virginia.

• **Deaf Ministry 35th Anniversary** | April 14 - 16 | **Friday, April 14**

6-6:45 p.m. - Light refreshments

(eat dinner before you come)

7 p.m. - Praise and Worship Service

Saturday, April 15

2-4:30 p.m. - Praise and Worship Service

5-8 p.m. - 35th Anniversary Banquet

Sunday, April 16

10-10:45 a.m. - Concert

11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. - Praise and Worship Service

Tickets for the banquet are \$15 per person. Deadline to purchase tickets for banquet is March 31. Use the QR code to order banquet tickets. For more information, contact the 35th Anniversary Committee at DMR35thanniversary@gmail.com.

• **Support Belltower Pictures** and help ReEstablish Richmond by attending the premier of **Anahita** at the Byrd Theatre, April 23 at 7 p.m. Produced by FBC member David Powers, **Anahita** tells the story of an Afghani mother who escapes from the Taliban to begin a new life in America. Ticket sales will support ReEstablish Richmond. Order tickets using the QR code.



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• **Newcomer Orientation** | April 2 | 9:30 a.m. | Adams Room | Newcomer Orientation is a gathering for those new to First Baptist Church who want to learn more about our mission and discover next steps for connecting into the life of the church. Held the first Sunday of every month.